United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Washington, D.C. 20240

National Policy Memorandum

Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of the Director

Number: NPM-DBIA-01 A2 Effective:

September 20, 2014

Expires:

September 20, 2015

Title: Youth Initiative - Amendment 2

1. Purpose

This memorandum amends NPM-DBIA-01 A1, Youth Initiative, issued September 20, 2013 to extend the expiration date one year. The purpose of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Youth Initiative is to promote career opportunities to native youth in the areas of natural resources, policy, and services the BIA provides to tribal communities.

2. Scope

To provide youth opportunities for internships by connecting them to natural resources and conservation projects as well as internships with the BIA Office of Indian Programs, Office of Justice Services, Regional Offices, Field Offices, and/or any of the BIA-owned or BIA-operated facilities within the geographic jurisdiction of the agencies or field offices.

3. Policy

The BIA Youth Initiative promotes the Secretary of the Department of Interior's goals of Play, Learn, Serve, and Work on public lands and waters. These goals strive to connect young people to America's natural and cultural heritage while increasing participation in recreational opportunities on public lands.

Mission Statement:

To promote, coordinate, and direct the engagement, education, and employment of native youth through hands-on experiences in natural resources, law enforcement, Indian services, and Trust, Education, and all programs BIA oversees in carrying out their government to government responsibilities to Native communities.

Vision Statement:

Provide opportunities to Native youth by promoting cultural, spiritual, and traditional values through meaningful employment opportunities.

These opportunities include public service, the role of the federal government in Indian self-determination, economic development, and Trust responsibilities in building strong and stable tribal governments.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

- **A.** <u>Director, BIA</u> is responsible for promoting economic opportunity, and implementing the responsibility to protect and improve the trust assets of American Indians, Indian tribes and Alaska Natives, and establish policies and programs affecting Indian trust resources.
- **B.** <u>Director, Youth Initiative</u> is responsible for building relationships with federal organizations, and for establishing partnerships with academia, universities, and tribal organizations by providing internships and conservation projects for native youth. The youth initiatives are designed to promote the cultural traditions that enrich Native youth who learn by participating in natural resource projects that encourage protecting and improving the Trust assets of Native Americans, preserving and maintaining natural resources, and promoting the stewardship of the land, water, and earth.

5. Approval

Michael Black

Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs